# METEOROLOGICAL REGISTRATIONS IN SAMOA. 1902-1906. II. RAINFALL.<sup>1</sup>

By Otto Tetens, Ph. D. Dated Berne, Switzerland, March 9, 1909.

### INSTRUMENT.

The self-registering raingage was one designed by Professor Hellman and constructed by Fuess. The receiving area is 200 square centimeters. There are two chambers, the upper one of small diameter empties its contents by means of a syphon, as soon as 10 millimeters of rain water have been collected, into the lower and larger vessel. The larger vessel serves as a reservoir and the quantity collected therein is measured daily by means of a glass graduate. The upper chamber also contains a float to which is attached a pen registering the height of the water (from 0–10 millimeters) on a drum which revolves once in about 26 hours. Owing to the small diameter of the upper vessel, the scale of rainfall is highly magnified showing 0.1 millimeter. This instrument was erected at Apia in as favorable an exposure as was possible. The surrounding cocoanut palms, viewed from the raingage, did not exceed an altitude of 45 degrees. It is difficult to say whether the palms have in

<sup>1</sup> For I. Winds, see Monthly Weather Review, March, 1909, 37:93-5.

general affected the catch of the gage; occasional comparisons were made with raingages placed near by and the results were in satisfactory agreement.

### MONTHLY RAINFALL.

# The separate months.

The following table, Table 1, gives for each month the duration, intensity, and quantity of rain, and summary of rainfalls.

Although the rainy season in Samoa is not so pronounced as in some other countries, yet it is very distinct. This is especially true of the northern coast of Upolu where the trade winds, during the dry season, come from a more southerly direction and the north coast thus becomes the lee shore. During the rainy season the winds blow from a more northerly direction and the north coast is then the weather shore. On the south coast the influence of the wind is just contrary to the above, and the two seasons are therefore more equal. In order to contrast the two seasons the months have been grouped under them so that now the tables begin with November, the first month of the wet season. The observations recorded embrace 4 wet and 4 dry seasons.

Table 1.—Observed rainfall data for Apia, Samoa, 1902-06.

						l	<u> </u>				]	Duration							_
		Months	•				Number	of rain	days.	<u> </u>	Number	of rain	hours.		Numb	er of ra	in minut	es (: 1,00	0).
						1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905- 1906.	1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905- 1906.	1906.	1903- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905 1906.	1906.
November December January February March						19 14 23 21 16 20	23 20 23 27 20 27	22 24 22 15 19	14 21 19 25 18 18 24	165 159 99	120 127 202 200 120 199	84 151 140 60 39 107	82 84 79 75 128	132	2. 1 1. 7 5. 4 5. 2 2. 7 4. 8	3.3 3.3 5.9 6.3 3.3	1.6 3.5 3.8 1.8 2.9 3.9	2. 5 2. 5 2. 1 2. 1 4. 3 1. 9	l:::::
MayJuneJulyAugustSeptemberOctober		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • •	15 17 13 17 20	19 12 13 18 21 16	7 11 10 13 10 14	16 19 20 14 20	. 57 . 85	83 56 65 122 93 65	37 80 34 69 44 41	76 92 <b>73</b> 115 66 61		2.0 2.9 1.2 1.6 1.7 3.8	1.8 1.1 1.7 3.3 2.8 2.0	0.6 2.0 0.7 2.1 1.5 1.4	2.3 2.4 1.8 3.1 1.9 2.1	
Dry seaso Wet seaso	on			113 99	145 99	121 65	116 106	731 556	968 484	631	532 483		. 22.1 13.0	28. 1 12. 8	17. 5 8. 4	29. 0 15. 4 13. 5			
Dry season Wet season		Character				(+0.06) -0.11	+0.16 -0.13	+0.18 -0.26	+0.14 (-0.04)	(+0.12) -0.18	+0.27 -0.21	+0. 22 -0. 28	+0.14 (-0.04)		(+0.23) -0.28	+0.34 -0.24	+0.23 -0.29	+0.16 (-0.06	
	- <u>-</u>		toneitu				<u></u>	uantity.		İ	·	<u> </u>	<u>.</u>	Rainf	alls.	<u> </u>	<u></u>		<del></del>
Months.	Centim	eters pe	r 1,000 r	gin minut	tes.		Cei	atimeters	ı <b>.</b>		Total nu	ımber of	rainfalls.		Rainfa	ılla of m	ore than iration.	one hou	ır's
	1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905 1906.	1906.	1902– 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905- 1906.	1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905- 1906.	1906.	1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905- 1906.	1906.
Wet season. November December January February March April	10 5 7 14 6 8	7 9 11 10 8	10 7 10 8 8	7 7 7 6 11	7 6	20 9 38 71 16	23 28 68 64 27 50	17 26 38 14 22 21	17   31 17   27 14   14   48	. 113 . 117	102 113 174 146 94 168	68 125 127 48 54 59	56 57 65 54 89 72	79 93	8 9 23 20 8	11 11 21 27 26 23	5 12 10 10 16 16	15 11 14 13 29	28
Dry season. May June July August September October	ary			12 26 7 10 18 32	18 12 11 10 21 15	1 15 6 13 10 5	18 16 8 12 9	- 7.5	75 49 51 106 74 52	34 69 24 43 28 26	60 71 <b>59</b> 88 47 39		7 17 7 5 5	2 3 11 14 12 5	2 7 4 10 6 8	13 8 7 15 9			
Year. Wet season	8. 5 8. 6	8. 5 9. 3	7. 6 7. 8	6. <b>7</b> 7. 9		297 191	847 260	186 137	193 122	. 1,038 . 556 482	1,204 797	703 479	747 883		152 92	166 119	106 69	151 90	
Character: Wet season Dry season	8.2 (+0.03) -0.04	6.7	5.8 +0.10 -0.13	+0.16 (-0.18)		(+0.26) -0.32	+0.44 -0.34	+0.32 -0.42	+0.32 (-0.24)	. (+0.06)	+0.26 -0.18	+0.20 -0.28	+0.13 (-0.02)		60 (+0.19) -0.24	+0.35 -0.28	+0.22 -0.33	+0.28 (-0.17	

"Character" of seasons defined.—The total amounts for the year and the two seasons give some interesting facts. The character of the one season in comparison to that of the preceding and following one is here expressed by a figure which is obtained by taking the difference of logarithms for the season in question and for the geometric mean of the two contiguous seasons. This definition of "character" does not apply to the first and last seasons observed as these lack either a preceding or succeeding season; therefore the "character" of such a season has been derived by comparison with one season only and its weight is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . In the tables the figures representing this character are in ().

Duration of rain.—The duration of rain has been expressed separately by the number of rain days, rain hours, and rain minutes, for which the mean "characters" are 0.15, 0.20 and 0.24, respectively, showing that through the rain minutes the

seasons receive their most potent character.

Rain intensity.—The rain intensity does not characterize the seasons even as well as do the number of rain days, the resulting mean "character" by intensity being only 0.11. As the depth or quantity is equal to the product of duration and intensity, the "character" by quantity equals the sum of the "characters" by duration and intensity. For this reason the quantity of rain is the most important element in characterizing the seasons; the mean seasonal "character" by rain quantity is 0.35. The mean seasonal "character" by the number of rainfalls is 0.18, but by those of more than one hour's duration, 0.27. The different rain features for the two seasons as observed at Apia for eight seasons, when arranged according to their mean "characters" rank as follows:

	Mean	seasonul	"character."
1.	Rain quantity		0.35
2.	Rainfalls of more than one hour's duration		0.27
3.	Duration by rain minutes		0.24
4.	Duration by rain hours		0.20
5.	Rainfalls		0.18
6.	Duration by rain days		0.15
7.	Intensity		0.11

A longer period of observation will undoubtedly change the above averages, as the data for the single years vary greatly. In

this respect the values of the individual months show the greatest variations, but the seasonal and even the yearly totals are likewise remarkable. If we consider only the last-named, the ratio of the largest and smallest of the four totals is 1.3, 1.6, 1.6, for the rain days, rain hours, and rain minutes, and 1.3 and 1.9 for intensity and quantity, while the number of rainfalls shows the extreme ratio 1.7 and the rainfalls of more than one hour's duration, 1.6. Thus the four years of observation have sufficed to determine fairly well the average rain intensity and the annual number of rain days, whereas it will require a much longer series of observations to determine equally well the average quantity. However, it is well known that precipitation is everywhere an irregular element.

# Average for four years.

The average monthly values of the precipitation features for the four years, 1902-06, are given in Table 2. The "seasonal ratio" is obtained by dividing the average for the wet season by the average for the dry season. The logarithm of the seasonal ratio is equivalent to the mean seasonal "character." The maximum and minimum values of the various factors here presented fall in various months, being found in all the months excepting November and December. It will be interesting to learn, if, after a longer series of observations is available, the same characteristics for each month which appear in the 24 columns of Table 2 will be essentially changed. In this respect Table 1 of this chapter throws some light upon this speculation as the data for each month are given. Some months show decided variations, and it may be safely expected that these fluctuations will recur in later years. In order to show these fluctuations more clearly the quantity and duration "characters" for each month have been calculated and these are given in Table 3.

As the division of the year into 12 months is an accidental one from a meterological point of view while the rainfall is the basis of the seasonal division, the meteorological "character" for the single month cannot be expected to be as steady as is the seasonal character. The unsteady character of the single months

appears in Table 3.

Table 2.—Average rainfall data, November, 1902, to October, 1906, at Apia, Samoa.

			Dur	ation.				Inte	nsity.		Qua	ntity.	Per	rcenta	ges.	Di	stributi	on.			Rainfa	alls.		
Months.		Monthly umber	of ———		aily ber of	rain min.		Centim	eters p				days.	hours.	00 minutes.	n day.	Rain		Numk raini	per of	Ave		Rain of m thai hou durat	nore in 1 ir's
Months.			(:1,000).	_		number of		ź	minutes	minutes,			days per 100 days.	per 100	s per 1	per rata				<b></b>			Num	
	Rain days.	Rain hours.	Rain min.	Rain hours.	Rain minutes.	Hourly nun	Rain day.	24 rain hours.	24×60 rain	1,000 rain m	Monthly.	Daily.	Rain days p	Rain hours	Rain minutes per 100 minutes.	Rain hours	Per rain day.	Per rain hour.	Monthly.	Daily.	Quantity.	Duration.	Per month.	Per 100 rainfalls.
Wet season. November. Desember. January. February. March. April.	20 19 23 20 20 22	95 107 146 124 109 134	2.4 2.8 4.3 3.8 3.1	3.2 3.4 4.7 4.4 3.5 4.5	79 89 139 136 107 138	3.3 3.8 5.7 4.5 5.8	cm. 1.0 1.0 1.8 2.0 1.4 1.4	cm. 4.8 4.5 6.4 7.8 6.2 5.4	cm. 12 10 13 15 12 11	cm. 8.0 7.2 9.1 10.1 8.6 7.3	cm. 19 20 39 40 28 30	cm. 0.64 0.64 1.27 1.38 0.93 1.01	65 64 73 72 64 74	13 14 20 18 15 19	5.5 6.2 9.7 9.5 7.4 9.6	4.9 5.5 6.4 6.1 5.5 6.0	122 144 190 190 167 186	25 26 30 31 30 31	76 86 .117 91 80	2.5 2.8 3.8 3.2 2.6 3.5	cm. 0. 29 0. 23 0. 33 0. 45 0. 86 0. 29	min. 31 32 37 42 41 40	10 11 17 18 20	13 13 14 19 25
Dry season.  June. July. August. September. October.	14 15 13 17 16 18	71 85 58 98 70 76	1.7 2.1 1.8 2.5 2.0 2.3	2.3 2.8 1.9 3.2 2.3 2.5	54 70 43 81 65 75	2.9 2.9 3.4 2.7 3.1	0.9 1.1 0.6 0.7 0.9	4. 1 4. 8 3. 3 2. 7 4. 9	10 12 8 6 11	7.2 8.0 5.8 4.4 7.4 6.7	12 17 8 11 14 16	0.39 0.56 0.25 0.36 0.48 0.50	46 49 43 55 57 56	10 12 8 13 10 10	3.8 4.9 3.0 5.7 4.5 5.2	5.0 5.7 4.4 5.8 4.6 4.3	118 143 101 149 127 134	24 25 23 26 28 31	60 73 45 78 56 58	1.9 2.4 1.4 2.5 1.8	0. 20 0. 23 0. 18 0. 14 0. 26 0. 27	28 29 30 32 35 40	6 9 7 11 8	10 12 16 14 14 18
Year.	18	98	2.7	3.2	90	3.7	1.2	5. 2	11	7.8	21	0.70	59	13	6. 2	5. 4	152	28	77	2.5	0.28	35	12	16
Dry season	21 15	119 76	3.5 2.0	3. 9 2. 5	115 65	4.8 2.7	1.4 0.8	6. 0 4. 1	12 9	8. 5 6. 5	30 13	1.00 0.42	68 50	16 10	8.0 4.5	5.8 4.9	168 130	29 26	92 62	3. 1 2. 0	0. 32 0. 21	38 32	15 9	17 14
Seasonal ratio *	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.3	2.3	2.4	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.2

Table 3.—Variations in quantity and duration of rainfall at Apia, Samoa, expressed by the respective "characters."

			(	Quantity.							Duration.			
Month.	1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904– 1905.	1905– 1906.	1906.	Average.	Mean de- parture from average.	1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904– 1905.	1905– 1906.	1906.	Average.	Mean de- parture from average.
Wet season. November. December. January. February. March. April.	-0.48 +0.20 +0.41	-0. 12 -0. 15 +0. 20 +0. 17 -0. 31 +0. 36	-0.07 +0.01 +0.30 -0.33 +0.13 +0.64	-0.28 +0.54	+0.27 (-0.05)	+0.17 -0.01 -0.03	0. 18 0. 16 0. 10 0. 30 0. 36 0. 30	(+0.08) -0.28 +0.25 +0.13 -0.27 +0.32	-0.02 -0.13 +0.11 +0.16 -0.27 +0.38	-0.22 +0.15 +0.19 -0.28 +0.04 +0.46	+0.11 +0.05 -0.04 -0.15 +0.34 -0.22	+0. 13 (+0. 05)	+0.13 -0.04	0. 11 0. 15 0. 09 0. 18 0. 23 0. 22
Dry season.  May June July August September October	-0.40 +0.43 -0.32 -0.09 +0.02 +0.20	-0.14 -0.06 -0.01 -0.16 +0.22 -0.09	-1. 25 +0. 79 -0. 38 +0. 24 +0. 06 -0. 37	+0.13 -0.25 +0.15 -0.08		+0.32 -0.24 +0.04 +0.06	0. 41 0. 29 0. 12 0. 16 0. 08 0. 18	-0.28 +0.29 -0.27 +0.05 -0.16 +0.20	-0. 14 -0. 20 -0. 05 +0. 18 +0. 03 -0. 02	-0.63 +0.46 -0.44 +0.29 -0.06 -0.12	+0.07 -0.19 +0.24 -0.13		+0.16 0.24 +0.19	0. 20 0. 22 0. 12 0. 08 0. 06 0. 11

From the column "Mean Departures" of Table 3 it can be seen that the five months, February to June, are the most inconsistent ones both in quantity and duration of rainfall.

### DAILY RAINFALL.

Table 4.—Daily rainfall period at Apia, Samoa. Mean hourly values, 1903-1906.

	26 30 22 32 52 12 34 60 9 30 49 11 29 45 13 28 48 10 27 40 15 26 36 16 26 32 20 22 28 16 26 32 21			Duration in minut		The	Intensity usandth imeter pe minute.	s of a er rain	
	Year.			Year.	Wet season.	Dry season.	Year.	Wet season.	Dry season.
0-1 a. m	26 32	30 52 60 49	22 12 9 11	3.9 3.8 4.0 4.1 4.1	4.6 4.4 4.8 5.7 5.6 5.8	3.1 3.1 2.6 2.8	8.0 7.0 7.4 7.0 6.5 6.2	9. 2 6. 9 10. 8 10. 6 8. 9 7. 7	6.9 7.1 3.9 3.4 4.1 4.7
6-7 a. m 7-8 a. m 8-9 a. m 9-10 a. m 10-11 a. m 11-12 a. m	27 26 26 22	40 36 32 28	15 16 20 16	3. 8 3. 7 3. 7 3. 6 3. 4 3. 4	5.1 5.0 4.7 4.5 4.5	2.4 2.4 2.6 2.8 2.3 2.6	6.6 7.2 6.8 7.2 6.5 7.8	9.3 8.0 7.7 7.1 6.2 7.6	3.9 6.3 5.9 7.3 6.8 8.0
Noon. 0-1 p. m	27 26 40 32 37 38	42 36 54 36 54 50	12 17 26 <b>28</b> 20 27	8.3 3.8 4.3 4.4 4.6 4.1	4.4 5.0 5.5 5.4 5.9 5.6	2.7 3.1 3.3 3.3 2.7	7.5 6.7 9.2 7.6 7.6 9.4	9.4 7.1 9.8 6.6 9.2 8.9	5. 6 6. 3 8. 5 8. 7 6. 1 10. 0
6-7 p. m 7-8 p. m 8-9 p. m 9-10 p. m 10-11 p. m 11-12 p. m	31 27 28 31 28 28	42 36 39 38 42 42	20 18 17 23 14 14	4.2 3.6 3.8 8.3 3.5 3.7	5.4 4.9 4.6 4.8 4.7 4.5	3.0 2.4 2.0 2.4 2.4 2.8	7.4 7.6 8.6 9.4 7.5 7.0	7.9 7.3 8.4 8.9 9.0 9.2	6.8 7.7 8.8 9.8 6.0 4.9

In order to diminish the accidental fluctuations it seemed advisable to adjust the data of Table 4 by using the formula  $b'=\frac{1}{4}$  (a+2 b+c), where a, b, c, are the originally recorded falls of three successive hourly intervals, and b' is the resulting adjusted value for the second hour. After computing these the values for quantity and duration have been converted into per cents of the daily totals, and thus the curves of fig. 1 have been constructed.

It appears from fig. 1 that the duration presents the least daily fluctuations, they amounting to a little more than 1 per cent. The durations for the two seasons agree very well, both showing the typical maximum between 3 and 6 p. m. This is also the time of maximum quantity. Evidently this maximum is caused by the daily temperature maximum which generally throws the atmosphere into very unstable equilibrium. This statement applies to Apia during the dry season only. In the wet season the northerly winds coming from the high seas favor precipitation. The atmospheric radiation during the night cools the upper strata whereas the lower strata are kept warm

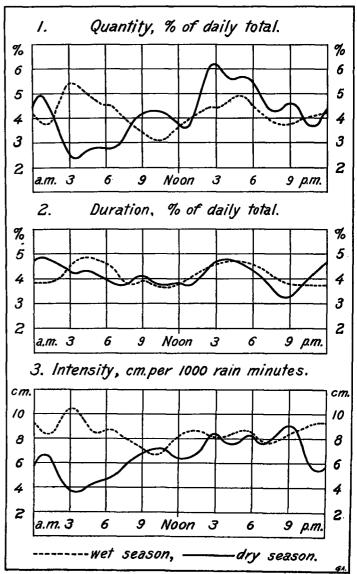


Fig. 1.—Rainfall curves for Apia, Samoa.

by the sea water. Thus a nocturnal unstable equilibrium is to be expected, especially during the rainy season, and owing to this fact the nocturnal rain maximum from 3 to 5 a. m. of the wet season, as shown by the three diagrams, is not surprising. Analyzing the results we obtain the following formulas expressing the departures from the mean average:

1. Quantity:
Wet season, =0.3 sin (85°+h)+0.7 sin (324°+2h)
Dry season, =1.2 sin (195°+h)+0.2 sin (395°+2h)
2. Duration:
Wet season, =0.1 sin (222°+h)+0.5 sin (310°+2h)
Dry season, =0.1 sin (116°+h)+0.4 sin (358°+2h)
3. Intensity:
Wet season, =0.7 sin (82°-h)+0.6 sin (358°+2h)
Dry season, =1.8 sin (195°-h)+0.7 sin (166°+2h)
(6)

These analytic formulas verify the previous statements. In Quantity and Intensity the first term's angular values agree very well, placing the daily maximum according to the thermal influence. The second term's angular values are equal in Quantity and Duration causing two maxima from  $3^h-4^h$ , two minima from  $9^h-10^h$ . These double daily periods of rain may be explained by the fluctuations in atmospheric pressure. The two phenomena are exactly opposite in phase. According to formulas 1 and 2 the variation of Quantity is about 0.07 millimeters during the wet season and 0.01 during the dry season.

It must now be seen if these amounts may be explained by the daily tropical fluctuations of the barometer. We have the equations:

$$dQ=c_v$$
.  $dt+Apdv$ ,  
 $pv=RT$ ,  
 $AR=c_p-c_v$ , where

dQ=the quantity of heat given to a certain quantity of air,  $c_p$ =the specific weight (=0.238) of air at a constant pressure, p.

c = the specific weight of air at a constant volume, v.

A=the reciprocal thermal equivalent (1/427).

p=pressure (=760 mm.)

v=volume.

R=constant of the gas (=29.3).

t=centigrade temperature of the gas.

T=absolute temperature (=300°A).

From the above equations we easily derive the following ones:

$$\begin{array}{c} pdv + vdp = Rdt, \\ dQ = c_vdt + ARTdt - Avdp, \\ dQ = c_vdt - ART. \frac{dp}{p}. \end{array}$$

The adiabatic condition gives dQ=0, from which we derive  $dt=\frac{ARTdp}{dt}$ .

By substituting the above given values of the different quantities in this equation the result is dt=0.114 dp,

therefore the mean daily fluctuations of the air pressure amounting to more than 1 millimeter cause temperature fluctuations of more than 0.1°C. Saturated air at about 25°C. condenses more than 0.1 gram water per cubic meter for a decrease of 0.1°C. in temperature, or more than 100 grams per 1,000 cubic meters. This quantity is equivalent to a precipitation of 0.1 millimeter over an area of 1 square meter. Although the air is not always near the point of saturation, yet the quantity ascribable to the daily barometric fluctuations is sufficient to explain the above-mentioned daily amplitude of 0.07 millimeter.

Since the rainfall is usually observed but twice a day in the Tropics, 6 a. m. and 6 p. m., it is of interest to figure the daily and nightly percentage. The result is as follows:

Percentage of day and night precipitation, Apia, Samoa.

Period.	Night.	Day.
Year	. 51.5	50. 0 48. 5 53. 6

### GRADES OF RAIN.

In reference to the rain quantity fallen during certain intervals of time, for example hours or days, a new gradation of rain has been introduced. As the soil, plants, tanks, etc., are unable to absorb more than a certain quantity of rain, the excess is obliged to overflow and thereby become useless. From a practical point of view the usual "additive" scale seems to overestimate the amount of rain falling at one time; and so in order to find a more adequate gradation a logarithmic scale seemed the most satisfactory. The rain being subject to the physical sensibilities of mankind Weber's law becomes applicable which also requires a logarithmic gradation.

When it is desired to convert these quantities into inches, considering 0.01 inch as unity, the above figures are multiplied by 0.3937.

Hence Table 6 is derived.

TABLE 6.—Table of rain "grades" and their equivalents.

	Quantity measured.
Grade of rain.	Unity=0.1 mm. Unity=0.01 inch.
0 1	1/2 and less
3	from 6 to 17 from 3 to 7
4	from 57 to 177 from 23 to 70 from 178 to 562 from 71 to 221
7 8	

In Samoa the rain falls in large quantities, and therefore it might be permissible in the original work to class falls of 0.1 millimeter and less in the 0-grade of rain; but in order that this method of classifying rainfalls may find application in discussions of dryer climates this Summary has classed precipitations of 0.05 millimeter and less in grade 0, and 0.1 millimeter in grade 1.

Hourly rain "grades."

This method of expressing rainfalls by "grades" makes it possible to publish on one page the hourly records of a self-registering rain-gage for 12 months. As an example the wet and dry seasons of November, 1902 to October, 1903, are given in Table 7.

From these 12 months of single hourly rain "grades" tables 8, 9, 10, and 11 are derived. Table 8 shows for each month the number of hours characterized by each "grade." It appears that "grades" 3-6 are the most frequent during the wet season, whereas the average "grade" for the rain hours is not very different for the two seasons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Weber's Law, Fechner's Law, or the Psycho-physical Law, may be formulated thus—"The difference between any two stimuli is experienced as of equal magnitude, in case the mathematical relation of these stimuli remains unaltered Or, otherwise expressed: In order that the intensity of a sensation may increase in mathematical progression, the stimulus must increase in geometrical progression. It is also expressed by Fechner in the form: The sensation increases as the logarithm of the stimulus." For example, "If we can distinguish 16 oz. and 17 oz., we shall we able to distinguish 32 oz. and 34 oz., but not 32 oz. and 33 oz., the addition being in each case, for example, 1/16 of the preceding stimulus."—Enclyclopedia Britannica, 1888-91. Ninth edition. Vol. 24, p. 469. Art. "Weber's Law."

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Table 7.—Hourly "grades" of rain at Apia, Samoa, 1902-1903.

				WET 8	EASON.			_					_	DRY 8	EASO	N.				
1902.	g,m.	6 a.m.	M. p.m.	 в р.т.	1903.	g.m. (	3 a.m	M. p.m.	6 p.m.	1903.	8.m. f	3 a.m. 1	И. р.m.	6 p.m.	190	3.	a.m.	8 a.m. N	I. p.m.	6 p.m.
Nov. 1			-		Feb. 1	34	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			May 1					Aug.	1				
	20	2452	22 20															022021	ö	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
	3.4.	3.	20	3		233	3110	1.					i.				2221	i		
6	43301	4			6			.32		  6				_	1	6				
v	. <b>. 2</b>				-	Δ· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	144	.0	41.3 2 432 654445			.,			ļ	_				
		3.	.:i:::			12.0	44	253655	432	ľ			52 .11				411111	.1.3	0.	42.431
	•••••		•••••	13			1223	454566	654445		•••••	•••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•••••						
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Table 8.—The number of hours each rain "grade" occurred at Apia, Samoa, November, 1902, to October, 1903.

Season.		1	Vumbe	or of ho	ours wi	th gra	de		er of hours	verage grade of the rain hours.
	No rain.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	Number o	Average the rair
Wet season.  November	625 679 579 513 645 572 656 608 687 659 642 608	7 8 18 11 5 8 10 6 7 12 10 10	15 14 23 23 18 24 24 23 21 10 21 16 29	19 15 36 26 25 30 20 20 21 13 28	27 14 36 28 25 36 12 22 11 16 17 28	16 11 35 35 20 28 20 19 7 11 11 27	111 8 133 266 6 20 3 111 14 9	00441002	95 65 165 159 99 148 88 112 57 85 78 186	2.7 2.2 2.6 3.1 2.6 2.8 2.2 2.6 2.1 2.1 2.5 2.6
Year.	7473	112	237	283	272	240	117	26	1287	2.6
Wet season	3613 3860	57 55	117 120	151 132	166 106	145 95	79 38	16 10	731 556	2.7 2.4
Seasonal ratio	0.94	1.04	0. 97	1.14	1.57	1.53	2.08	1.60	1.81	1.4

Table 9 gives a summary of the time characterized by hourly rain "grades." Two or more rainfalls, in the usual meaning of that term and of the previous statistics based on rain minutes, are now represented by one "grade" number unless their interval covers the full hour and then a period appears in Table 7 of hourly "grades."

Table 9.—Frequency and intensity of rainfalls of various durations in "grade" hours. Apia, Samoa, 1902–1903.

Rainfalls (=Successive hours with rain).

		ber of lls last		occu	m of ho pied by lasting	y falls	ave	ntensit rage he 'grade	ourly	Sui "gra	n of ho des'' fo lasting	r falls
Number of successive hours show- ing "grades."	h 1-3	h 4-12	>12	h 1-3	h 4–12	» ≥12	љ 1-3	h 4-12	>12	h 1-3	h 4-12	h >12
Wet season. November December January February March April	38 19 26 30 21 30	7 5 12 11 8 13	0 0 2 1 1	hrs. 58 29 52 44 33 57	hrs. 37 36 75 78 52 77	hrs. 0 0 40 35 14 14	2.5 2.0 2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2	2.9 2.4 2.7 3.2 2.7 3.1	3. 2 3. 9 2. 7 3. 7	146 57 111 93 73 124	107 88 200 251 142 240	0 0 128 138 38 52
Dry season. May June July August September October	27 29 23 27 25 41	7 7 3 8 5	0 1 0 0 1 2	43 53 39 37 40 64	45 38 18 48 25 41	0 21 0 0 13 31	2.0 2.1 1.9 1.7 1.9 2.0	2.4 2.7 2.6 2.3 2.6 3.0	3.9 4.2 3.3	85 112 76 63 75 128	109 102 46 112 64 122	0 82 0 0 55 101
Year.	336	93	9	549	570	168	2.1	2.8	3.5	1143	1583	594
Wet season Dry season	164 172	56 37	5 4	273 276	355 215	103 65	2.2 2.0	2.9 2.6	3.5 3.7	604 539	1028 555	356 238
Seasonal ratio	0.95	1.51	1. 25	0.99	1.65	1.58	1.10	1.12	0.95	1.12	1.85	1.50

A comparison shows that the number of rainfalls as computed by the "grade" hours, amount to about 4/10 of the number obtained in the usual way, by counting by minutes. In all four columns of Table 9 the rainfalls are divided into three groups, viz, those lasting from 1-3, from 4-12, and more than 12 successive "grade" hours. The group 4-12h. gives the highest seasonal ratio in each of the four columns.

Table 10 gives the daily arithmetical totals of the hourly "grades" as given in Table 7, and this is summarized in Table 11 which shows the number of days characterized by various groups of daily "grade" totals. The group embracing totals from 30 to 59 in Table 11 gives the largest seasonal ratio. The monthly averages and totals given in the last three columns of that table also bring out distinctly the difference between the two seasons.

Table 11.—Number of days having various total hourly rain "grades." Apia, Samoa, 1902–1903.

}		Nı	ımber o	f days w	ith		dally r all		daily r the ye.
Daily totals of hourly "grades."	No rain.	0 to	10 to 29	30 to 59	60 to 99	>99	Average d total for a	Monthly total.	Average d total for rain day
Wet season. November December January February March April	11 17 8 7 15	9 8 10 10 7 5	8 5 8 5 6	2 1 5 2 3 4	0 0 0 4 0	0 0 0 0 0	8 5 14 17 8 14	253 145 432 489 253 416	13 10 19 23 16 21
Dry season. May June July August September October	16 13 18 14 13	6 7 9 12 11	8 9 4 4 5 6	1 0 0 1 0 4	0 1 0 0 1 1	0 0 0 0	6 10 4 6 6	194 296 122 175 194 851	13 17 9 10 11 18
Year.	153	103	78	23	8	0	9	277	16
Wet season Dry season	68 85	49 54	42 36	17 6	5	0	11 7	331 222	18 13
Seasonal ratio.	0.8	0.9	1.2	2.8	1.7		1.6	1.5	1.4

Daily rain "grades."

According to a long established custom eye observations of rainfall are usually made but once during 24 hours, it therefore seems advisable and of general interest to compare the daily quantities of rain with those of the hourly grades referred to in this summary. Table 12 gives the daily "grades" for the first two seasons observed.

From Table 12 the statistics presented in Table 13 have been derived, showing that the two seasons are best characterized by the daily grade 6, grade 7 and 8 happen too seldom and the grades below 6 in the wet season do not predominate over the same in the dry season. The monthly totals of the daily grades give the seasonal ratio 1.3 which is only one-half of that given by grade 6, but still it is sufficient to characterize the two seasons in regard to the benefits derived from the rainfall.

Table 10.—Daily arithmetical totals of hourly rain "grades" at Apia, Samoa, 1902-1903.

Day.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	81
Wet season. November December January February March	55	6 17 8 13	19 1 :	12 • i 1	3 25 13 6	15 8 19 7 35 10	2 15 5 8 1 13	i 13 20 26 2	2i 46 44 21	4 26 66 23 18	2 38 76	8 1 57 70	2 32 71 3	18 5 88	36 4 1 8	18 38 3 5	3 8 3i 19	5 3 10 25	3 13 28	6	18 2	45 8 18 14 7 24	25 7 3 16 40	34 26 29 24	17 : : 4 71	15 8 17	15 13 13 0 3	4 . 4 . 2	<u>:</u> :	15  :	
Dry season. May. June July. August. September Oc' ober	8	3 22	8 6 7 7 3	26 5	1 5 27 8 24	7 26 2 11	i 16	10 10 19 i	2 12 14 1	7 23 2	26 24 35	9 13 52	17 6 13	22	12 20 34 9	20 5 3 19 32	18 18 3	3 0	34 17 5 5	1 5	2	1i 3 2 12	27 4 9	18 2 : :	29 : 7	92 6 0 32	20 3 3	2 71	i 5 5	22 5 15 11 3	4 - 2

Table 12.—Daily rain "grades," Apia, Samoa, 1902-1903.

										DE 12.				3,,		11 pow	,	1100 W	, 100	02 10	· · ·										
Day.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Wet season. November December January February March	0 7 4	3 5 4 .5	5 1	4 i 1	3 5 4 3	5 4 5 3 6 5	2 4 3 5 1 6	1 5 5 5	3 6 7 6 6	3 6 7 5 6	2 6 8	5 1 7 7	2 7 7 3	5 3 6	6 3 1 3	6 6 3 4	3 4 5 6	3 3 4 6	3 5	4	6 2	6 4 4 5 4 5	6 4 2 5 6	6 5 6 5	6	6 5 5	6 .4 5 0 3	3 3			- 3 -
Dry season. May June July August September October	4	3 6	3 4 3 5 2	6 2	1 3 6 3	3 5 2 5	i 5	5 5 5 1 4	2 4 5 1	5 2	6 5 7	4 5 6	5 3 5	5 3 7	4 6 6	5 3 3 5 6	5 5 3	2 0	6 5 4 3	1 3	2	4 3 2 5	6 2 5	5 2 	4	3 0 7	2 3	2 7	i 3 2	6 4 4 4 3	- - 4 - 2

Table 13.—Frequency of various daily rain "grades." Apia, Samoa, 1902-1903.

_		1	Vumbe	er of d	ays ha	wing	daily "	'grade	**		i	
Season.	No rain.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 .	8	Totals.	
Wet season. November December January February March April	11 17 8 7 15	0 1 0 0 1	0 3 0 2 2 0	3 0 2 0 0 2	5 1 5 5 2 3	1 4 4 3 3 0	4 2 5 5 5 5	6 3 4 1 3 9	0 0 3 4 0	0 0 1 0	81 50 105 96 63	
Dry season. May. June. July August. September. October.	16 13 18 14 13	0 0 1 0 1 0	2 1 1 0 1	3 1 2 2 5 2	1 4 2 8 2 3	1 2 3 3 2 3	6 5 3 2 4 6	2 3 1 2 1 2	0 1 0 0 1 3	. 0	57 73 44 62 58 89	
Year.	153	4	13	22	41	29	52	37	13	1	877	
Wet season	68 85	2 2	7 6	7 15	21 20	15 14	26 26	26 11	8 5	1 0	494 383	
Seasonal ratio	0.80	1.00	1. 17	0.47	1.05	1.07	1.00	2.36	1.60		1.29	

The same ratio, when computed from the hourly "grades," is 1.5, whereas the ratio from rain quantities measured in the customary "additive" manner is 1.8. It can safely be expected that a similar proportion will exist in other rain statistics.

Table 14 shows the average daily "grades" for each month of the eight different seasons observed. The "character" of each season is given below and shows distinctly the great variation from year to year. Only the daily "grades" for the rain days do not show remarkable features, the individual monthly average of the wet season varying between 3.5 and 5.0, and for the dry season between 2.4 and 4.4. The average values for the two seasons are 4.3 and 3.7 and characterize the seasonal difference very slightly.

## WIND DIRECTIONS AND RAIN.

For the year 1906 the wind registrations are quite complete, and the statistics given in Table 15 have been obtained.

These percentages when divided by one hundred give the respective probabilities. Thus it appears that the tradewinds, during both seasons, afford a smaller rain probability than the

Table 14.—The mean daily rain "grades" for each month of the period, November, 1902,—December, 1906, Apia, Samoa.

			For all	days.		For the rain days.						
Months.	1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905- 1906.	1906.	Average Nov., 1902, to Oct., 1906.	1902- 1903.	1903- 1904.	1904- 1905.	1905- 1906.	1906.	Average Nov., 1902, to Oct., 1906.
Wet season.  November. December. January. February. March. April.	1.6	3.3 2.9 4.2 4.3 3.1 4.2	2.6 3.3 3.5 2.5 2.4	2. 3	3.2 3.2	2.7 2.5 3.3 3.1 2.8 3.2	4.3 3.6 4.6 4.6 3.9 5.0	4.3 4.5 4.7 4.6 4.8 4.7	3.5 4.2 4.7 4.6 4.1 3.8	4.6 8.5 4.1 3.6 4.5 3.7		4.4
May Dry season. June July August September October	1.8 2.4 1.4 2.0 1.9 2.9	2. 2 1. 5 1. 8 2. 2 2. 4 2. 0	0.5 1.4 1.0 1.6 1.4	2.7 2.1 2.3 1.6		1.6 2.0 1.8	3. 8 4. 3 3. 4 3. 6 3. 4	3.6 3.8 4.2 3.7 3.4 3.8	2.4 3.9 3.2 3.8 4.1 3.6	4. 2 3. 8 3. 5 3. 5		4. 1 3. 7 3. 6 3. 5
Year.	2.4	2.8	2.0	2.4		2.4	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.9		4.1
Wet seasonDry season	2. 7 2. 1	3.6 2.0	2.8 1.3	2. 6 2. 2		2.9 . 1.9	4. 4 3. 9	4.6 3.7	4. 1 3. 6	4.0 3.8		4.3 3.7
Character: Wet season	(+0.12) -0.18	+0.25 -0.20	+0.24 -0.32				(+0.05) -0.06	+0.08 -0.07	+0.05 -0.06			

average of all winds. During the dry season a much higher rain probability is presented by the south to west-northwest winds, evidently because atmospheric disturbances are accompanied by these winds.

Table 15.-Wind direction and rain.

1906.	V	Vet months		Dry months.						
Regardless of wind directions, rain hours, per cent of all hours		14. 7								
Group of winds	NW to NE.	ENE to SSE	S to WNW	NW to NE	ENE to SSE	S to WNW				
Winds, per cent of all winds	14.0	58.6	25. 6	6.3	89. 8	2. 2				
Rain hours, per cent of all	16.8	53.2	23. 2	6.8	87.5	4.4				
Rain hours, per cent of all hours of the special wind group	17.6	13.3	13. 3	11.9	10. 6	21.6				

The northwest to northeast winds change remarkably from one season to the other. During the wet season they are the rain-bringing winds as they come from the high seas; but during the dry season they are dry and therefore seem in fact to be trade winds which are shifted by the sea breeze and come from the north.

# WEATHER NOTES FROM PUERTO PLATA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

By R.J. TOTTEN, U. S. Consul. Dated Puerto Plata, D. R., August 14, 1909.

The Tacajo Cacao and Sugar Company, whose banana plantation lies at Sosua in the province of Puerto Plata, has published from time to time a series of weather notes. From these notes the following summary for the fiscal year, July 1, 1908–June 30, 1909, has been compiled.

The total rainfall for this period was 110 inches, distributed as follows:

Table 1.--Monthly rainfall at Puerto Plata, D. R., 1908-9.

1908.		1909.	
July	Inches. 6.75 1.45 19.75 6.90 12.90 13.85	January February March April May June	Inches. 20, 90 8, 35 1, 85 1, 35 8, 05 7, 90

The average monthly rainfall was 9.16 inches. The heaviest rainfall registered in any one day was 9.10 inches on September 10, 1908.

The highest temperature recorded during this period was 94° F., on July 12, 1908, the lowest was 62°, on January 19, 1909. The maximum and minimum temperatures recorded in each month follow:

Table 2.—Monthly temperature extremes at Puerto Plata, D. R., 1908-9.

1908.	Max.	Min.	1909.	Max.	Min.
July	93 92 86	°F. 77 80 73 78 76 72	January February March April May	°F. 81 80 86 86 87 87	°F. 62 70 71 74 74 70

The average mean temperature for the year was 79° F.

The prevailing winds are east-northeast and are commonly known as "Local Trades." Average velocity of wind 6 miles per hour.

The highest recorded barometer reading was 30.45 inches, the lowest was 28.25 inches.

## CHANGES IN THE MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW.

In the issues of the Monthly Weather Review for February and March, 1909, we published in full all the pertinent parts of orders issued by the Chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau, outlining changes which he planned to make in the character of the Review beginning with the issue for July, 1909. At the beginning of the announcement in the issue for February the following statement was made:

It appears from the following that those readers particularly interested in *climatological statistics* should request that the Review be continued to their addresses; those who are more interested in theoretical and technical discussions of data should request that the Mount Weather Bulletin be sent them in place of the Monthly Weather Review.

It appears that there are many who have not read these notices and outlines of prospective changes, and the Weather Bureau is still frequently requested to renew or add to its subscription list recipients who apparently do not realize the character of the new publications.

Our readers are therefore informed that beginning with the issue for July, 1909, the Monthly Weather Review will be restricted to statistical tables of general climatological data for the whole of the United States. The relatively small amount of accompanying text will summarize the weather conditions of the month in the different districts. It is thus evident that hereafter the Review will be of value only to those advanced students of climates, engineers, etc., who need detailed data for their own discussion.

Few papers of general interest to teachers, except as related to climatology, will be published in the Monthly Weather Review, and it is not probable that the publication will be of value to those public schools and high schools that have been receiving it heretofore. These circles of readers must now turn to the editors of already existing journals to supply their needs along those lines formerly met, perhaps, by articles in the Monthly Weather Review.

We may here also take the opportunity to remark that the scope of the articles appearing in the Mount Weather Bulletin will be limited to technical treatments of subjects of advanced research. This will make most of the articles of that publication also beyond the comprehension of the average pupil of the above grades of schools, and make the Bulletin only appropriate for the libraries of colleges and universities.—

G. A.

## TORNADOES IN MISSOURI.

On April 29 a very destructive tornado passed through Golden, Barry County, killing nineteen or twenty persons and injuring about eighteen others. Property amounting to nearly \$20,000 was destroyed within the village and probably as much more along the route of the storm northeastward to Viola, Stone County, where two or three persons were killed and nine seriously hurt. A number of citizens saw the approaching storm and describe it as resembling the smoke of a railway engine. It was not accompanied by rain or hail. Nearly all the trees blown down by the tornado fell in the direction whence it came, the trees to the southwest being badly battered and bruised as usual. Chickens were picked of their feathers and some were torn to pieces. It is reported that the large amount of atmospheric electricity present increased the difficulties of telephoning to Golden.

Another tornado visited Alton, Oregon County, on this same date, destroying most of the buildings of the town and killing six persons.— $C.\ A.,\ jr.$ 

# TORNADO AT ANNISTON, ALA.

By W. F. CLARK, Assistant Observer. Dated Anniston, Ala., May 8, 1909.

On April 13, 1909, at about 3 a. m., a small tornado traversed Calhoun County, Ala., from southwest to northeast, passing